

The Deaf Lutheran

A MISSIONARY MONTHLY

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of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States*

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No. 8

In Danger's Zone

O wayward one, why not return?
Why wander on in danger's zone?
Although salvation you may spurn,
Yet in your heart do you not yearn
To have the deepest peace that's known?

A once-born soul, as Christ has told,
You first must have the second birth
To join the Savior's chosen fold!
Your self-wrought works, though manifold,
Can't pave the way to heaven from earth.

Not born again? Then you are lost!
Why stay and play in danger's zone?
Have you once stopped to count the cost
When once life's boundary is crossed?
Come! Christ can save, and Christ alone!

EDNA R. BROWN

Self-Deceiving Reasoning

Some men are not Christians because, they argue, they do not understand the Bible, but St. John replies, "If any man will *do His will*, he shall *know* of the doctrine whether it be of God or whether I speak of Myself." John 7:17. Some men think that they are good enough now and do not need Jesus, but St. Paul says, "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Rom. 3:23. Some men fear ridicule, but Jesus, the King of Glory, answers this objection with the admonition "Whosoever shall be ashamed of *Me* and of *My words*, of him shall the Son of Man be ashamed," Luke 9:26. Some stumble at seeing hypocrites in the Church, but God answers, "Wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself," Rom. 2:1. Some are unwilling to make a sacrifice for Him who "for *your sake* became poor," 2 Cor. 8:9. Some fear they will not be accepted, but Jesus invites all men. He promises, "Him that *cometh to Me* I will in *no wise cast out*," John 6:37. Some are too busy with their everyday problems, but Jesus, the Mouth

of all wisdom, asks, "What shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" Matt. 16:26. Some refuse to think on these things now, but God admonishes them thus: "Boast not thyself of tomorrow, for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth," Prov. 27:1. Some trust in their own imperfect virtues and good deeds, but the Bible teaches, "The Blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, cleanseth us from all sin." "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and *Thou* shalt be saved," 1 John 1:7; Acts 16:31. Some fear that they will lose faith, but Jesus promises, "He is able to save to the *uttermost* them that come unto God by Him," Heb. 7:25. Let us, then, accept Him and His promises now, before our doom is sealed.

O. C. S.

Studies in Luther's Catechism

THE THIRD ARTICLE

"I believe in the Holy Ghost"

Join the Church that continues in the Word of Jesus! Our dear Lutheran Church does that. It is the Bible Church!

The Lutheran Church Is Built on Christ

One perhaps will say: "You call the Lutheran Church the Bible Church. Why, then, the name Lutheran? This name seems to show that your Church is built upon Luther." The name Lutheran does not and should not say that. This name was given to Luther and his followers by the enemies. Luther did not want this name for the Church. He said: "I beg that my name be passed in silence and that people do not call themselves Lutherans, but Christians. . . . Do it not; let us put away party names and bear the name of Christ, whose doctrine we hold." And in the year

1517 Luther nailed the Ninety-five Theses to the church door at Wittenberg. These theses he began not with these words, "I say unto you," but with the words "Our Lord Jesus said." Luther wanted only the Word of God, not any man's word, to rule in the Church. Take any of the teachings of the Lutheran Church, and you will see that it is the teaching of the Bible. The Lutheran Church is the Bible Church!

Not the Name Lutheran, but Only Faith in Jesus Saves

Perhaps another will say: "Will only members of the Lutheran Church be saved?" Friend, we did not say that. We have learned from the Word of God that only believers are members of Christ's Church and that only faith in Christ's blood will save sinners. Mere membership in the Lutheran Church or in any other Church, will not open the gates of heaven to anyone. A man may be a member of the Lutheran Church and still go to everlasting punishment in hell. We do not say: "Only Lutherans will live with Christ," nor, "All Lutherans will be saved," but we do say: "The Lutheran Church teaches the Word of God in all its truth and purity." Do as the Bereans did, Acts 17:11. Compare the teachings of the Lutheran Church with the Bible, and, we are sure, you will confess, "Yes, the Lutheran Church is the Bible Church."

Believe in Jesus and Join the Bible Church

First, we must be members of the holy Christian Church. The first question we should ask ourselves is, "Do I believe in Jesus Christ as my Savior?" And the next question should be, "Does my Church continue in Christ's Word in all of its teachings?" If it does not, we must leave it; if it does, then let us work for this Church, pray for it, support it with our time and money. And as we will not accept impure food and drink, so let us not listen to false teachings nor support a Church with such teachings in any way. Our Lord says: "Beware of false prophets!" and, again, "Avoid them!" and, "Come out from among them!" (Matt. 7:15; Rom. 16:17; 2 Cor. 7:17.)

O grant that in Thy holy Word
We here may live and die, dear Lord;
And when our journey endeth here,
Receive us into glory there. Amen.

J. L. S.

THE BREAD OF LIFE

Bible-Study for August

Bible Lesson: Acts 2:14, 16, 17, 21

"Peter, standing up with the Eleven, lifted up his voice and said unto them, Ye men of Judea and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my word. . . . This is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel, And it shall come to pass, saith God, I will pour out My Spirit upon all flesh; . . . and it shall come to pass that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

We know that the Holy Spirit gave the apostles wisdom to speak in clear language. Their words were clear sentences and not confused words. The people testified that they could understand the apostles, for in verse 11 they said that they "could hear them speak the wonderful works of God." But some of the people who saw the disciples refused to believe this miracle of God and spoke wickedly against the disciples. But the disciples were now *filled* with the Holy Spirit; they had courage, and so Peter arose to deliver a sermon. Peter knew the language of the people at Jerusalem a long time, but Peter was not always in the past brave enough to tell the people that Jesus was their only Savior. Perhaps, while Peter was talking, some of the other disciples continued to talk to the other people of different nations in their own language. But Peter did not have an easy task. Look who his audience was: "Ye men of Judea and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem." Without a doubt these were some of the people who before this had scoffed and mocked or had also taken a part in the trial of Jesus to condemn Him to death.

Now Peter asks the people to listen while he tells them a message from God, a message that will bring them closer to heaven. Peter also warns them not to listen to the scoffing of the scribes and the Pharisees, because their teachings will only take them farther away from God. But he makes it clear that here is a message from the Lord, by whose Holy Spirit a new faith will be started in their heart.

"It shall come to pass. . . . I will pour out My Spirit upon all flesh." The speaker wishes the audience to know that now the Spirit of grace and pardon is distributed over a greater territory than ever before. The name of a prophet in the Old Testament is mentioned

(verse 16), which is meant to explain that the prophets of the Old Testament had the gift of the Holy Spirit, but *now* the Spirit of the Lord shall be poured out upon *all* men, also upon the Gentiles, who were not Hebrews.

"In the last days" — that is, when the Messiah (Jesus) has come and has completed the work of the redemption of sinners, "the Lord's house shall be established, and all nations shall flow unto it," Is. 2, 2.

It will be a glorious day when these miracles are performed by the Lord (v. 20), and "it shall come to pass that whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord," in the true faith and trust in Jesus, "the same shall be saved," Rom. 10:13. To *you* of the New Testament times comes this Word of the Lord, the Bread of Life. Pray to this Lord Jesus; *trust in Him* alone to help your soul, "and you shall be *saved*." A. E. F.

Minnesota Pastor Shows Missionary Zeal

A few quotations are hereby given from a letter received recently by Dr. J. T. Mueller of Concordia Seminary from Pastor N. W. Zellmer of Hill City, Minn.

"Upon entering this charge, I found one deaf man as a member of the Remer congregation, who had been receiving his spiritual food only by the written word. And, as he later told me, 'I have not seen a pastor who knew my language for the past ten years.' His unlimited appreciation gave rise to my promise of signing the service while I spoke it to the rest of the audience. But before three weeks had passed, the names of some twenty other deaf were already written in my notebook and were visited as soon as time permitted. Out of these visits a preaching station arose at which the attendance varied from the high of twenty to the low of seven. Those deaf whom we visited told many different stories concerning their former church connections, their family life, their hunger for the Gospel, their joy of meeting a pastor who could, and was willing to, serve them."

A more detailed account of the interesting tales told by these deaf is contained in the letter; however, lack of space will not permit us to print all of them.

Surely, this Lutheran pastor has shown great love and zeal for bringing God's saving

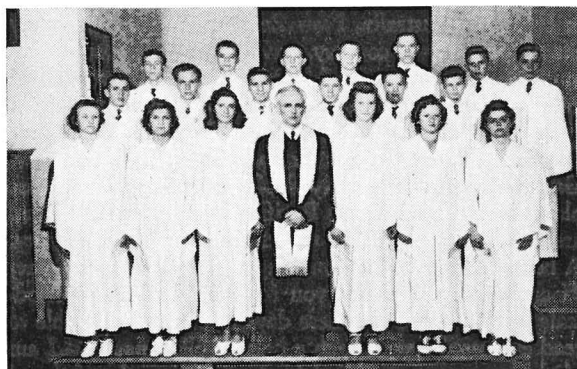
Word to all blood-bought souls within his reach, and we know the Lord will grant His divine blessing upon this work.

Rev. Zellmer, while at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, took up the study of the sign-language, and from his experiences mentioned above we know he will never regret having had the opportunity to learn this language of the deaf. May God therefore also bless abundantly the instruction classes in signs given the students at the Seminary by Pastor N. P. Uhlig. E. M.

IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL

Minneapolis Mission. — June 8 the twin grandsons of Mrs. Augusta Malzahn, David Roy and Dean Martin, born December 9, 1941, were baptized by the pastor in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. Thus they became sons of God. — June 28, Jerry Don, born June 10, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Froehlich, was brought to Christ in Holy Baptism in our Mankato service, which was attended by twenty-one deaf, nineteen of whom also came to the Lord's Table. — May God keep these three new members of His Church in His grace to the end! J. L. S.

Omaha, Nebraska. — On May 3 it was the privilege of the pastor through God's grace to confirm a rather large class of pupils from the Council Bluffs and Omaha schools. There were 15 from Council Bluffs and 5 from the Omaha school. Eight of this class also received Holy Baptism. The confirmation was held in Bethlehem Lutheran Church for the Deaf in Omaha. May God keep these new members of His Church in the saving faith in their Savior unto the end.



Class Confirmed by Rev. E. Mappes, May 3, 1942

Front row, left to right: Lela Mae Horstman, Winnetoon, Nebr.; Dorothy Perl, Harvard, Nebr.; Pauline Meeks, Anamosa, Iowa; Rev. E. Mappes; Kathleen Thomsen, Osmund, Nebr.; Esther Von Ohlen, Chapman, Nebr.; Mary Martens, Battle Creek, Iowa

Middle row, left to right: Leland Osborn, Spencer, Iowa; Harold Kinkade, Milford, Iowa; Richard Ames, Eldora, Iowa; Bert Stokesbary, Klemme, Iowa; Burnett Lillard, Des Moines, Iowa; Herman Johnson, Rake, Iowa; Eldon Wormley, Newton, Iowa

Back row, left to right: Chester Armstrong, Clarion, Iowa; Harold Hill, Oskaloosa, Iowa; Glen Brower, Blairsburg, Iowa; William Amos, Shubert, Nebr.; Milford Humphrey, Sioux City, Iowa; Paul Matzen, Mason City, Iowa

The infant daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Nord and Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Cooper were baptized in the services at Omaha on May 17 and June 7, respectively. The Lord keep them in His grace.

Mr. Preston Best, a member of the Omaha congregation, and Miss Janet Voigt of Lincoln were united in marriage at Lincoln on June 21. They will make their home in Fremont, Nebraska, where Mr. Best is employed. May the Word of God, the constant source of peace and happiness, dwell in them richly and bless their future home.

Mr. John Probert, one of our faithful members at Sioux City, Iowa, fell asleep in Jesus on the morning of May 14. The funeral was held at Sioux City on May 16. May the God of all comfort be with the bereaved wife and children and keep them in the true faith and finally grant them all a blessed reunion in heaven.

E. M.

Missions for Blind and Deaf.—We continue to receive many interesting letters from the readers of the DEAF LUTHERAN and our periodicals for the blind.



Residents of the Indiana Home for the Deaf at Brookston

In the past weeks we heard from deaf and blind friends in England, Australia, New Zealand, China, and many States of our own country. We learn from these communications that the deaf in war-torn countries work in defense plants and at first-aid posts and supply stations. In our own country Leo Kuehn of Detroit and his deaf friends are doing good work for Henry Ford, and Rev. Gaertner reports that sixty deaf are working in defense plants in Oakland on the Pacific Coast. Even the blind are rendering service in the defense of their country. A home teacher in London, England, tells us in a letter: "I am writing to thank you for your Lutheran periodicals for the blind. In these days of strain, being able to read embossed type is such a help to blind people. I am glad to say that the blind in my area are cheerful and brave. Many of them are knitting for the forces, and others have found some way or another in which they can help." We are always happy to read in these letters from the deaf and the blind that they find the Word of God a real help, light, comfort, and inspiration in these difficult times.

The picture shows the residents of the Indiana Home for the Deaf at Brookston. On Sunday, June 28, deaf-blind Mrs. E. Spurry was baptized and confirmed at the Home. Superintendent and Mrs. J. Miller co-operate

with us in every way. Many thanks to them for their kindnesses!

At the Illinois Home for the Deaf Mrs. W. Branum entered into glory at the age of 95 years. She was a devout Christian to the end and the wife of a former instructor of the Tennessee School for the Deaf.

A Lutheran *Messenger* reader in Fort Worth, Texas, wrote: "Though I have been ill for some time, I continue to read my *Messenger for the Blind* from cover to cover and appreciate it more and more every month."

O. C. S.

PRAYER moves the hand that moves the world.

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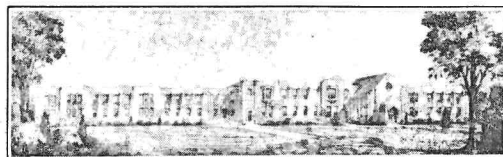
Ministers to the Deaf and the Blind

Rev. O. Schroeder, B. D., 1648 E. 85th St., Chicago, Ill.
 Rev. C. Bremer, 8336 S. Green St., Chicago, Ill.

These ministers preach in more than 200 cities in our land; they conduct classes in religion at many State schools for the deaf. You will find them ready to serve you; call upon them or write to them. The deaf need God's Word.

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